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THE

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION MAGAZINE.

No. CXXVII. JULY, 1859. Vol. XI.

"The word of the Lord endureth for ever."—1 Peter i. 25.

PROFITS DEVOTED TO RAGGED SCHOOLS.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The thanks of the Committee are presented to Mrs. Reade, Hastings, for a parcel of clothing; to the Hon. Miss Monson, for a parcel of clothing for Field Lane School.

RAGGED SCHOOL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING

Will be held at Albert Street School Room, Mile End New Town, on Wednesday Evening, July 6th, 1859. Tea at Half-past Five o'clock. Tickets 6d. each. Lecture at 7 o'clock, by the Rev. THOMAS ARCHER, D.D.

SUBJECT—"Our Age: its Work; and the Men for it."

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The Committee of the "Ragged School Teachers' Association" of London hereby beg to announce to their friends in general, and to teachers in particular, that they are in no way connected with an association designated *The Westminster Ragged School Teachers' Association*; nor are they in any way responsible for the transactions of Mr. ISAAC WOOD, formerly the Master of the "One Tun" Ragged School, Westminster.

W. FERRY, *General Secretary.*

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ROBERT HANBURY, Esq., M.P.,
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A MEETING to commemorate the establishment of the

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TRAINING INSTITUTION FOR YOUNG SERVANTS

Is appointed to be held in a Tent on the Grounds of the Institution, West End House, West End Lane (between Kilburn and Hampstead), on FRIDAY, the 8th of JULY, 1859.

THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY will take the Chair at Four o'clock; and Addresses will be given by ROBERT HANBURY, ESQ., M.P., and other Gentlemen.

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Contributions will be thankfully received by Mr. J. G. GENT, Ragged School Union, Exeter Hall; and by Mr. W. BROWN, Hon. Superintendent, 7A, New Cavendish Street, W.

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Resolution from the present Committee:—

"Resolved,—That this Meeting desire to express their thanks to Mr. —— for the great zeal and efficiency with which he has conducted the school since his appointment as master."

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PARENTAL THANKS.

"June 13th, 1859.

"GENTLEMEN,

"You will please accept of my own and wife's heartfelt and grateful thanks for your kindness to our daughter, in receiving her into your excellent Institution, whereby she has been snatched not only as a brand from destruction, but placed under the means of grace. May the Lord in his mercy not only bless these your efforts to do good in her case, but in many other poor wandering souls now under your care. We hope she may evince the sincerity of her repentance by her future good conduct, and that she may have cause to bless you, as being the instruments of reclaiming her from the error of her ways. We again return you our grateful thanks on her behalf. Trusting that the Lord may bless and prosper your efforts to promote his glory in the salvation of sinners,

"Gentlemen, with great respect,

"I remain, for self and wife, ——."

A few days ago a poor labouring man came to London to take his reclaimed daughter home from the Institution, and insisted on giving £1 as a token of his gratitude to the Committee.

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PENNY GAFFS.

It is always with reluctance that we intrude upon the notice of our readers subjects of a repulsive and unattractive character. The world in some of its aspects is full of life, beauty, and hope; and upon these we should, if possible, prefer exclusively to dwell. But, unfortunately, ignoring the presence of evils does not remove their existence, and it is better to confront them, even at some little sacrifice of inclination, if by so doing we can at all assist in their repression. The evil to which we have now to direct attention is that of "Penny Gaffs," or, should any of our readers not understand the term, theatres of the very lowest description, where boys and girls—by whom they are mostly frequented—are admitted for the small sum of one penny; and so pernicious is the influence they exercise, that no amount of teaching, kindness, or persuasion which a Ragged School can afford, can counteract the deadly fascination when its hold is once fairly established. We append in support of the statement two extracts, one from a newspaper, the other from the Report of Agar Town Ragged School:—

"Seizure of an Unlicensed Theatre.—Augusta Livermore, aged 36, of 56, Ossulston Street, Somers Town, described as of no occupation, was brought up on a warrant, executed by Mr. Superintendent Loxton, of the S division, charged with keeping and using a certain house in Middlesex Street, Somers Town, parish of St. Pancras, as an unlicensed theatre, where stage plays were performed, and into which admission was obtained by payment of money; and several persons of various ages were charged with being found in an unlicensed theatre, in Middlesex Street, where stage plays were being performed, and into which admission was gained by money.—Mr. Superintendent Loxton, S division, was present to watch the case on behalf of the Commissioners of Police; Mr. Lewis defended the prisoners.—For some time past complaints have been made at this court and to the police of the nuisance arising from large numbers of young girls and boys visiting the above place of amusement, which was well known as the 'Somers Town Penny Gaff.' In many cases, where boys and girls have been charged at this court with petty thefts, they have stated that they have taken the things for the purpose of raising the money to visit it. The parents have complained most bitterly, and in consequence the matter was taken up, and, on Monday a warrant having been granted by the Commissioners of Police, it was placed in the hands of Mr. Superintendent Loxton, who, with a body of police, entered the place and apprehended the above parties. The case excited a great deal of interest, and the court and its approaches were crowded to excess.—Evidence having been given showing that there was a stage, scenery, footlights, &c., Mr. Loxton stated that when he entered he found between 300 and 400 young people in the place. There were generally three performances of a night, each performance being visited by about 300 persons of different sexes.—Police-constable Kindon, 173 S, proved visiting the house, and gave a very graphic description of the performances. Several times the performers spoke, and on many occasions a regular dialogue was carried on. Sometimes the performers explained the piece by dumb show. The piece being performed last evening was 'Three Fingered Jack.'—Mr. Lewis contended that the case must fail, as they were not stage plays that were being performed, and the performers only made use of dumb motions.—Mr. Corrie said, that what the Commissioners wanted

was a decision as to whether these plays were stage plays or not. Now, he should hold that if there was no dialogue, it was still a stage play. There was no definition in the present Act of Parliament of what a stage play was; but in the 6th and 7th Vict. the word 'pantomime' occurred. The amount of the fine he should inflict was not of so much consequence as the putting a stop to those places, and this he was determined to do. If the parties were brought before him again he should send them to the House of Correction. He should order the defendant Livermore, who had acted as the proprietor, to pay a fine of £2, and the others he would discharge with a caution.—The money was at once paid."

"PENNY THEATRES.—Among the various evils with which Ragged Schools have had to grapple, 'gaffs,' or penny theatres, occupy a prominent place. The evil is of the most frightful magnitude; these gaffs are open to girls and youths of all ages, frequently becoming the school-rooms where the guiding morals of life are picked up. These dens of infamy generally consist of a large room, used as a theatre, holding from 100 to 600 children; adjoining is a waiting-room, where various kinds of gambling are carried on. The entertainment consists of singing, dancing, and a ballet; the obscene and filthy songs, intermixed with oaths, slang, and coarse jests, scoff at and ridicule religion, morality, and honesty. The audience is composed (mainly) of prostitutes and thieves, and the conversation carried on is the most filthily obscene, and wickedly blasphemous, that can be imagined. One of these infamous dens, known as the 'Quilt Exhibition,'—situated in the New Road, to which we fear the ruin of several of the girls who formerly attended these schools is to be traced, besides the corruption of numbers more both boys and girls,—has through our exertions been at length closed by the police; but another one has recently been opened in Middlesex Street, in our immediate vicinity. This holds 500, and is filled four or five times nightly. Though its degrading character is well known to the police, though we can show that numbers of our boys, formerly well-behaved and promising, have become quite unmanageable by what they witness there, it is, in spite of all our efforts, still allowed to continue ruining hundreds of precious souls by its Satanic teaching. One instance out of many may be given to show how these places act as roads to ruin to boys and girls:—A boy who attended our school for some years, having retained the same situation above twelve months, and having a good character from his master, received the reward of 10s. given by the Ragged School Union, and a Card from the Earl of Shaftesbury; he subsequently procured employment on the Great Northern Railway, and might have done well, but, becoming acquainted with bad characters at the gaff in Middlesex Street, he, in order to supply himself with money to spend there, stole brass from the Company's premises; he was detected, and sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment only, in consideration of its being his first offence. The disgusting nature of the proceedings at these gaffs, and the impunity allowed to their proprietors, are both equally a disgrace to the State."

These extracts will serve to show the practical effects which these "gaffs" produce upon the children who frequent them, and that many may date the commencement of their downward course from their first entrance.

It is not our province here to decide respecting the morality or immorality, the expediency or inexpediency, of what is usually termed the "legitimate drama;" but this much is at least certain, that no habitual theatre-goer—though the theatre may be of the highest and most respectable character—can preserve his tastes from being vitiated, his mind rendered unhealthy, by the practice. Anything in fact, whether it be a continuous course of novel-reading, the unlimited exercise of imagination, or any other form of indulgence

which attracts the mind from the stern realities which surround it, and the ordinary business of every-day life with which it has to do, and fixes its attention on the unreal and the non-existent, cannot but be injurious to its healthy action. It is by such means forced into a heated and unnatural atmosphere, the fumes of which penetrate into its most secret recess and intoxicate by their narcotic influence. The world unfortunately is a fact and not a sham, life a reality and not a vision, and all who wish properly to employ both the one and the other must accommodate themselves to the existing state of things, and learn to be practically in earnest and not dream away in unsubstantial brooding over what might be, the moments that ought to be employed in making use of what is. Sometimes indeed we fear that the reaction is too strong; that practice is altogether displacing theory, reality superseding imagination, to an extent which in its turn may also be undesirable; that life, hope, beauty, joy, fancy, imagination, are all liable to be crushed out under the hard, dry, stern, relentless pressure of—to use the stereotyped phrase—the "eminently practical." It almost appears as if the immortal dreamer, did he live now, would be passed heedlessly by as not being "practical;" that Shakspeare will in time fade from view because he is too theoretical and visionary for this enlightened age. Whoever wishes to do any honest work must of necessity, in the present state of society, be practical in its performance; yet it will be accomplished all the better if the worker is inspired during its progress by impulses of fancy or imagination to which others are blind, but which, as he plies his unwearied task, will whisper to him words of unutterable sweetness, and bathe his soul in golden visions, and become, even in the dust and din by which he is surrounded, the inspiration of life's highest aims, the sustainer of its hottest fights, and the source of its most unflinching endurance. But with this limitation, that the practical and imaginary should be combined, nothing remains but to protest against the unlimited indulgence of the latter, especially in the form of theatre-going. Surely there is enough real sorrow in the world—sorrow which is causing many a heart to beat and throb and almost despair—to weep over, without shedding shallow and unmeaning tears over grief that has no real existence. Surely qualities which may command our admiration, virtues which compel our respect, talents which demand our homage, honesty which requires our appreciation, may be found clothed in real flesh and blood, and possessing all the attributes of humanity, without our being reduced to the necessity of admiring the fictitious virtues of equally fictitious heroes. Surely there is enough romance in real life, in the beating hearts, the changing scenes, the incomprehensible vicissitudes of human experience, without resorting to fancy's aid to concoct impossible combinations, which can only exceed in grotesqueness, and never surpass in reality, the wondrous incidents of actual experience. And for that mind which can only sympathise with ideal hopes and joys, sorrows and fears, and has no compassion for the real ones which overtake and agitate poor suffering humanity, we have not the slightest respect. The only consolation is, that by repeated intoxication it will soon become incapable of feeling at all, that it will suffer a gradual but sure collapse, and that in time a few dry, withered shreds will alone remain of what ought to have been a living, beating heart.

The question before us is one in which we may fairly reason from the greater to the less. If on well-educated, respectable people, a well-conducted

theatre exercises a noxious influence,—if they cannot escape being tarnished by the contact,—the effect which a "penny gaff" produces upon boys and girls just growing up may be easily imagined, although the extent to which it demoralises them is not so easily ascertainable. We must content ourselves in this instance with a general charge; a detailed delineation would be too horrible to give. But when vice is held up to applause and imitation—the Dick Turpins, Jack Sheppards, Claude Duvals, of former days, praised for their dash, bravery, and generosity—when crime is divested of its natural repulsiveness by a gloss of apparent virtue, no wonder that it is true of the poor victims of the spectacle—

> "That seen too oft, familiar with her face
> They first endure, then pity, then embrace."

We are no advocates for civil interference in such matters where it can be avoided. A community cannot be made religious by Act of Parliament, or forced by an outward pressure to run in particular channels which may be deemed desirable. It may even be thought by some that the virtue which requires to be fenced round by legal provisions and penal enactments is not worth preserving; but still it is well known that many fall through temptation who would stand were the temptation removed. The strength which can resist temptation deserves our praise; the weakness which cannot, requires our help; and when, as in the present instance, it can be shown that a certain class of entertainment is productive of crime, it appears certainly advisable that the law should interfere and save the deluded and too-easily fascinated victims in spite of themselves.

SELF-EDUCATION.*

FELLOW-TEACHERS and fellow-labourers, as such I address you. Although I have not formally taught in Ragged Schools, I, however, hail you as brethren and sisters in the mission of beneficence to mankind.

I know what teaching means. Some of my happiest, yet most laborious, hours were spent by myself as a tutor to youth. You are nothing the worse, but the more to be estimated, for endeavouring to raise the *lower orders* out of the depths of ignorance and vice. No enterprise is so glorious as that which proposes to exalt the degraded and cheer the hopeless. But your attention this evening is summoned, by way of relief from other arduous duties, to the important work of teaching yourselves. Not that I suppose you are untaught; not that I assume the character of your preceptor; but as a friend I am about to offer a few suggestions which may be useful to us all. My subject is *Self-education;* or, in other words, the self-application which is indispensably necessary to secure the development, enlargement, and improvement of our individual mental and moral faculties. To endeavour to promote this much-desired object is the reason why I invite your candid attention to the remarks I shall submit to your notice. In doing so, I disclaim all official or personal consequence; I rather appear before you as a fellow-man; and in the language of Terence, who lived 160 years B.C., say:—Homo sum; humani nihil a me alienum puta (I am a man; and I think nothing proper to man unconnected with me). As a man, simply, I address my fellow-men; therefore, I ask, *hear me.*

* A lecture delivered by the Rev. Daniel Ace, of St. John's College, Cambridge, to the Ragged School Teachers of London, on Wednesday, March 30th, 1859.

I look upon man as being something more than an animal; I look upon him rather as a being possessing powers that distinguish him from other tribes of animal creation by whom he is surrounded. He may not possess their agility or brute force; but he has something which can control them and constitute himself their lord. Experience proves that there is in man something more than the sagacity which distinguishes other animals, such as the dog, &c.; something more than the industry, or even methodical arrangement, which characterises the ant or bee. All these diversified peculiarities, or manifest qualities, are the result of blind instinct, regular, it is true, in their operations, but incapable of improvement. In man, however, there is something more than instinct; there is a spirit which we call *reason*. And this is capable of immense improvement, which is the glory of man.

What belongs to our species most concerns us. Contemplate the genus man. He can reflect on the past, and deduce therefrom lessons of wisdom to guide him for the future. He can also anticipate events as *likely* to come to pass from the process of surveying the chain of occurrences which the course of days gone past has firmly linked. This we maintain man can do; and in proportion to his capability in abstracting ideas from events presented to his notice, and uniting them in one grand lesson of instruction, is his mental greatness really constituted. To call forth this capability into action, to enlarge and regulate it, comprise the work of self-education. Let it be remembered that *education* is to man what the chisel of the statuary is to a block of marble. Without the exertions of the sculptor, latent veins in marble would never be developed, never exhibited to mankind. The chisel must be used, and used well, or the beauties of every block of marble would be concealed from human view. So with man. Books are his chisel, and self-application is the statuary. Study is the *only* mode of employing man's mental energies. And, if the mental faculties be not engaged in the delightful and improving exercise of close study, they will ever lie dormant, and the possessor of them will scarcely elevate himself above the level of animal sensuality. In addressing you, I feel, in common with yourselves, that an exquisite organisation was designed by the Almighty Creator for some nobler purpose than to consume the fruits of the earth; and am persuaded that you will agree with me in opinion that those astonishing faculties with which, in common with mankind, we are endowed, should be wisely directed and fully exercised to accomplish the great object of our existence. And if this noble work cannot be accomplished without education, and if application be the *soul* of education, I submit that my theme is not unworthy the attention of the most advanced scholar; and if I can contribute anything to subserve the advancement of any person in the field of literature, I humbly offer the same, I repeat, without claiming the authority of a preceptor, but actually by seeking our individual and mutual improvement.

Education. What is its definition? Before I give an answer thereto, I would premise that, unless we define it, we shall not understand it. And to endeavour to understand it fully by accurate definition is the best way to prevent all disputes about it. Its primary meaning is involved in the Latin word *educere*, and literally expressed, is *to draw out*. So it signifies. It is to draw out, not one, but all the faculties of the mind into vigorous and healthy action, and by application, or self-culture, lead them on to their highest degree of refinement and activity. Not dissimilar are the definitions of two authorities on education. Dr. Wiseman says, "that the object of education is to expand the mind, to widen the thoughts, to sharpen to an edge the intellect, to brighten the imagination, to strengthen the memory, and to give proper expansion and vigour to every faculty of man."

Dr. Whewell, of Cambridge, in his lecture on the "*Material Helps of Education*," defines education to be "the process by which an individual is made a participator in the rational, the true, the beautiful, and the good." All agree that the mind of man is naturally in a rude and uncultivated state, and that its condition is inactive; and

all, I submit, will agree with me in the correctness of the definition I have laid down. If so, what is popularly called a *finished* education is complete nonsense. Education never ends. Recently I saw in a publication, I think in *Punch*, if I recollect correctly, that our time of education is our apprenticeship. I can only accept that definition as being correct in reference to another state of existence. Whilst dwelling in this mortal life, within the boundary of time, we are in our apprenticeship for eternity. Whilst we live, we should be ever learning, for we have not got to the end of it. Alas! we have not reached its meridian. We feel daily, if we are wise, how limited are our own faculties, how slender, comparatively, our utmost attainments. We are constantly persuaded, if we are men of sober thought, that we are under the tutorship of our own increasing experience, our own developing intelligence, our own improving faculties. Whilst we live we can ever be educating, or drawing forth our faculties to employ them with greater vigour in the work of preparation for the high destiny to which we aspire.

Education, being defined to be the drawing out of all our faculties, imports, therefore, the very contrary which many suppose, viz., that it consists in the pouring in of a great many facts into the mind, either through the eye or ear. Nay, it denotes the actual conveyance of that kind and degree of knowledge to the mind, in such a mode as that, whilst it fixes ideas in the understanding, *at the very same time* it draws out or exercises the *faculties*, through the excellency of the knowledge imparted, so as to increase in strength, and acquire by their own unassisted exertions further information to be qualified for every emergency. Hence it appears that knowledge is but the raw material of education. The work of the instructor is to act upon the raw material, to shape and beat it into form, and, after having done this, to use it to his own advantage.

In the work of mental training, whilst the understanding is continually enlightened by the aid of memory, the great object of self-education should be to awaken observation and thought,—to call the faculty of conception into continual play,—to strengthen the reason by frequent comparisons,—and gradually, by deep thinking and stern logic, so to draw it into exercise as to form a correct judgment in all things.

The scope of this lecture does not permit me to enter the field of juvenile or infant culture, except incidentally, although I would fondly linger therein. I would willingly expose that wretched system of tuition, as unreasonable as it was wretched, which was adopted and pursued when I myself was a boy. It would delight me to point out the advantages of the youth of the present generation over those of a past age in intellectual training. We all know that the rod is now almost excluded from every well-regulated school; that it has given place to the mellow tongue of the intelligent teacher. We all know that the school itself, formerly dreaded as a prison-house, is now become the interesting playground to allure and excite the young to think.

Passing by this field of tender and interesting mental culture, I must regard another, such as institutes in which are adults, congregated and united for self-improvement. Opsimathy, or learning late in life, I do not depreciate. There are some who do. Whilst we all admit that it would be more advantageous to commence the work of self-education in early life, yet the effort to supply the deficiencies of a neglected or imperfect education is not to be despised. Such as do lightly regard the effort should remember the Horatian motto, if they ever learned it:—"Nil mortalibus arduum est" "Nothing is (too) hard for mortals," that is, if they only try. It is by perseverance that you will be able to surmount difficulties. And how is this to be accomplished without self-education? Confessedly, to be deprived of the means of education is to be placed in circumstances of peril. This is admitted by the best and most experienced of mankind. I do not say that no educated persons find their way into gaols, but I do assert that those who are deprived of mental and moral culture are most likely to be the inmates of prisons. Those who are swayed by impulse and sudden impressions,

without any countervailing influence or direction, are likely to contract habits of vice, till at length by evil practices those habits will be confirmed, and impressed as second nature. I call on philanthropists to pity the condition of an undisciplined mind that has no right thoughts or sound principles implanted. Character must be formed either for good or evil. There is no standing still in life. And, therefore, it is doing violence to the rights of individuals to neglect the cultivation of the inner man, to refuse to give the mind a right impulse and direction, to decline educating it for bliss and glory.

Believe me, your highest wisdom lies in your endeavour to improve your condition; not in making it your chief concern to escape from it. I admit that the trials of life are oppressive; but, put a manly courage on, and look above to the God of all grace for strength to enable you to overcome the world. *Educate* yourselves in time for eternity.

With regard to the process of self-education, an objection may be offered. You may say, and that very truly, all men are not alike gifted. Some can do this work better than others. Well, this is not denied; yet all may study. I admit that some must plod; but this circumstance does not prevent all winning a prize. All may win. Nevertheless, the degrees of reward may be various and manifestly distinguishing. It is an opinion of my own that men, as to their capabilities of mental and moral improvement, may be divided into *four* classes.

The first comprises those persons who can teach themselves. They possess the highest order of intellect, and are consequently the fewest in number. Such gifted characters, by their distinguished capacities and force of intellect, not only overcome all obstacles, but also work their way to a place or condition higher than that wherein they were born. As a Roman poet says, "They stretch their wings beyond their nest." They take their place in social life, not through the influence of wealth, or family connections, or political interest, but solely by means of their own intellectual superiority. And by way of episode, I would observe, that it is dangerous to any class of men to interpose an effectual barrier to changes of condition in the case of clever self-educated men. Society cannot dispense with their services. Let the highest cultivated talent, and the best man, be the most rewarded.

The second class comprises those who can soon shine in society, if taught but a little. Those persons need be put in the way of acquiring knowledge. Often we come in contact with men holding positions of influence and responsibility, and it would be invidious to particularise persons claiming much of our respect, concerning whom, in tendering our meed of approbation, we unhesitatingly aver that if they were educated, they would shine brilliantly. At present they are unpolished diamonds; they need the polish of the jeweller to touch and refine them. They require to be shaped by the finger of art, to have their native excellences developed and exhibited by the application of that labour which alone can confer embellishment.

The third class of persons consists of those who require much instruction and application before they can appear as respectable scholars. Those persons are they who can plod, and, after much culture, make a barren soil produce fair average crops. They do not exhibit much talent; but, after much study and rich culture, they secure that education which the second class needs, but they lack the talent which the second class possesses.

The fourth class of persons comprises those who, lacking a spirit of application, after all their study, make nothing out: they are ever learning, but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. I dare not say that they cannot learn; but one thing is certain, somehow or other they do not learn.

Now, in addressing those varied classes, some of each and some of all may this evening be present, I would point out:—

(*To be continued next month.*)

A SPECIMEN OF OUR RAW MATERIAL.

THE following painful particulars serve to illustrate the difficulties to be overcome by the Ragged School Teacher in the discharge of his onerous duties, and also to show the penalties inflicted on society, if the class of juveniles of which "H. C." is a sample be longer neglected and allowed to pursue the downward course of crime. The details are furnished by a much-esteemed teacher of a London Ragged School.

"H. C." is 15 years old, was born in St. John's Court, West Smithfield; has two brothers and one sister. His mother, when only 15 years of age, ran away from her home, and married a very old man who was in a large way of business; for a few years things prospered, but through losses he became bankrupt, and has been for the last four years an inmate in the workhouse; his age is upwards of 80 years. The mother has for the last three years supported the children by needlework; she is only 37 years of age. The boy H. C. first went to the Ragged School in West Street, until it broke up. He then went to Fox and Knot School, was there for six months; he was then 10 years old. About this time he began to associate with thieves, going to Farringdon Market and stealing baskets filled with apples, and selling them to the sellers of fruit about the streets. He was being nearly caught one evening with a basketful of apples, since which he has left off going there, but took to stealing meat from butchers' carts in Newgate Market. Four of these lads went together early in the morning, while the butchers went into the market, and brought out part of their meat and put it into the cart, and while going for the remainder, these lads stole whatever they found most convenient to carry away. On one occasion they could find nothing less than a dressed sheep; they were determined to take it; one of the lads, being stronger and taller than the others, offered to carry it; they succeeded in going the length of Farringdon Street, without any obstacle; a policeman then appeared and gave them chase. The boys ran up Plumtree Court into Holborn Hill, and finding that the policeman was close after them, they threw the sheep into a dust-bin and escaped. Being known, he was afraid to go to the "Market" any more, and therefore turns to picking pockets. In this pursuit he received a professional training from "Mouse Lloyd," a trainer of juvenile thieves. H. C. became so clever at his new profession, that the London thieves named him "Never-fail." He has been known to take as many as thirty-three silk handkerchiefs from gentlemen's pockets in one day; with the aid of another boy, he stole in one day as many as fifty-seven. He went on thus for some time without being detected, but while picking a gentleman's pocket in Bow Lane, Cheapside, a detective officer saw him and took him. For this he was sentenced to twenty-one days in prison. The boy said he learned more in that twenty-one days from old hands, than from all his former companions. When the twenty-one days expired, his trainer met him at the jail-door and took him home. Instead of handkerchiefs, he now took to stealing ladies' purses and gentlemen's watches. The largest sum he alone abstracted from the pocket was £7 15*s.* 7*d.*; but in company with the man "Mouse Lloyd" and a woman, he stole on one occasion from a lady in Regent Street £71 1*s.* 3*d.* While this money lasted, they all lived on the best of everything. The manner in which they conducted these purse robberies was, by the woman, who was showily dressed, going up to some lady and showing the address on an envelope, and asking which was the nearest way. While the lady's attention was drawn off, the boy would come behind and pick the lady's pocket. The man stood on the other side of the street, and when he saw they succeeded, he would run up a little way, cross over, take off his hat, pretending he was very warm, and as the boy passed him, he would throw into the hat the purse and all it contained. The hat with the purse in it was then replaced, the three would each walk different ways to the house where they lived. The purse was then supposed to be opened for the first time, and the contents divided. The first pocket he picked contained £2 5*s.*, of this he got £1; he had on an average 6*s.* out of every 20*s.* The first time he was caught at a

"pocket" was in Great Queen Street, when he robbed a lady of £1 18*s.*; he passed the money to the man "Mouse," who ran off with the money; but the lady missed her purse, and suspected the lad, called, "Stop, thief!" he was taken to the police court, and received two months' imprisonment. He had nothing out of the £1 18*s.*; but when the sentence expired, the man "Mouse" met him and gave him his breakfast. The next time he was caught in stealing £7 13*s.*, in Regent Street; the same man, "Mouse," had the money, and the boy was imprisoned for three months, at the expiration of which he took another companion. For some time they escaped the vigilance of the police. They are occasionally dressed most elegantly, with patent leather boots, gold chain, &c., and any one who did not know them would never suspect them. He was again caught with his hands in a lady's pocket, and was again sent to prison for three months. Some time after he stole £2 1*s.* 6*d.*, for which he received another three months' imprisonment. His companion had the money; but he proved more faithful than the man "Mouse," for at the end of the three months he met him at the jail door, and gave him £1 0*s.* 9*d.*, being exactly the half of the money. Further details of villany need not be given; suffice it to say the lad, although a clever thief, was thirteen times in prison.

The teacher of the Ragged School learned when the time expired of the thirteenth imprisonment, and decided to try once more what he could do to rescue this youth. The time expired on the 17th of January last, and on that day he made arrangements by which the lad fell into his hands. The teacher reports of him as follows:—

"I made him a monitor in the school, and gave him 6*d.* a week, and any little extra help I could. I took him home with me occasionally, and gave him every encouragement. For some time he went on extremely well, but he began to get tired of the school; his companions taunted him, and showed him money which they had stolen. On his being absent one day, I sent to his mother, but she knew nothing of him. On the following morning he came to school, and on asking him where he had been, he tol l me the following, which I have found to be correct. He said, 'I began to feel tired of the school, I did not wish to go on the old game, and I thought I would take a walk and see if I could hear of any sailor boys being wanted; when in Cheapside I was looking at a picture shop, when a gentleman came and said, "Boy, do you want a place?" I said "Yes;" he replied, "Come with me." On going along Cheapside, the gentleman asked, "Who knows you?" "Mr. Fraser, of Field Lane Ragged School." "Will he recommend you." "I think he will."'

"The gentleman took the boy to his house, and told him he would give him 6*s.* a week: that his work would be to break coke, go messages, and work about the house. The boy took off his coat, and commenced to break coke; when he had filled a basket, he was desired to carry it upstairs, where he saw jewellery, gold and silver watches of every description. The boy, for a moment, was stupified; he felt the old Adam at work, and put down the coke, walked out of the room, and went downstairs. Several times he was called to do something in this room; he thought he heard something within say, 'Take something, and be off;' he was worked up to that state that he did not know what to do. He was desired to go and carry a box from one room into another, containing jewellery; he replied, 'Wait a moment.' He took his cap and went away. In going down the street, he met a boy whom he knew to be of honest and respectable parents. He said, 'To-morrow morning you go to such a house, and say you have come about the place, and see if you will answer; but be honest.' On the following morning the boy went and got the situation, and is in it now, giving every satisfaction. H. C. came back to the school; he was constantly asking to go to sea. I wrote to several seafaring men, but to no purpose. I sent him to the House of Occupation, but he was refused admission because he had been so often in prison. I found school was becoming exceedingly irksome to him, and I was at a loss to know what to do. On the following day a gentleman came into the school, and offered to give industrial work for the bigger boys, by which means they might earn 6*s.* a week. After a little consultation with the

superintendent, I accepted his offer. The first boy was H. C., who began the work, and a more active and industrious lad could not be found; early and late, for six weeks, he worked. During that time he brought numbers of boys, who had been in prison, to work with him, and the conduct of these lads have been such that I feel more convinced that, give these lads a chance of earning an honest living, and nine out of ten will accept the offer, and become useful members of society; what they want is some one to take them by the hand. Last Thursday morning, however, I found that, owing to a quarrel he had with the man who superintended the work, he left the school. I began to conceive all kinds of ideas about the lad. I sent to his mother, and found that he had not been home. I sent to every probable place, but could not find him. On the same day I received a note from a gentleman to say, if I had the lad examined by a medical gentleman, and he proved healthy, he would see what he could do for him. An answer was to be returned by ten o'clock on the following morning. Here was a good opening for the boy; but he was not to be found. I now renewed my search with increased vigour; and the first information I obtained was that he was seen in Oxford-street, with six other lads, picking pockets. I tracked him till I found he had gone with three others to the gallery of the Victoria Theatre, where Jack Sheppard and Jonathan Wild were being acted. How to get the boy out was a matter of no easy consideration; but have him I was determined, if I watched till one o'clock in the morning. I first thought I should pay the money and go up myself, but then I considered that, though unknown to the place, I was very well known to several of the audience, and no doubt, when recognised, my name would be sounded from one end of the theatre to the other, and the worst construction put upon my visit. I therefore preferred acting by deputy, and employed a lad I could trust to find H. C. and bring him out. I walked about for some time, but neither H. C. nor the messenger appeared. An hour and a half passed, when, to my great delight, the two lads appeared, and came to where I was standing. H. C. hung down his head; the boy I sent in for him came up to me with a laughing countenance, and said, 'I have got him, Sir.' I said, 'How have you been so long?' He replied, 'I could not get at H. C. before the third act was over; and oh, Sir, the house is crowded to the ceiling.' My gladness at seeing them was much lessened when my deputy turned round and exclaimed, 'Are you going, C.? if so, good night, here goes it. Jack Sheppard says, if there were no receivers there would be no thieves; so off I am to see the rest.' I asked H. C. to give me the cheque which admitted him any time that evening during the performance. He declined. I said, 'Will you come home?' 'No,' he replied. 'Will you walk along the Cut with me, as I wish to speak to you?' He complied reluctantly. As we passed I failed not to improve the opportunity. Presently I found he was crying. I asked him what he was crying about. For a moment he seemed choked; he then suddenly looked up, and, with tears in his eyes, replied, 'I am crying, Sir, because I have been thinking how kind you have been to me; I shall never forget you. I did intend to give you the slip, and run back to the theatre; but no, here goes the cheque,' tearing it into small pieces. He seemed relieved, and told me he was very hungry, and that he confessed having picked a gentleman's pocket of his handkerchief, and sold it for 1s., which paid for the four going to the theatre that night. As soon as the theatre was over they all intended, had he not seen me, to try their luck again, so as to get a supper. I gave him some bread and some coffee, and accompanied him home. That night he did nothing but cry. On the following morning he was at work in the school-room by half-past six o'clock; at nine o'clock I had him examined by a medical gentleman, who pronounced him to be strong; by ten o'clock I had him with the gentleman who wrote for him; and before another week is over, he will be on board a vessel, that will carry him far from his haunts of vice."

We hope, by-and-by, to have something more to say, and perhaps of a brighter character, respecting H. C.

OLD SCHOLARS' MEETING.

THE superintendent and teachers of Clare Market Ragged School, Bear Yard, adopted readily the proposal in the Ragged School Union Magazine to fix an annual day for the gathering together of their "old scholars;" and in a right loyal spirit chose the 24th of May, as the birthday of our good Queen Victoria; a day likely to be remembered by "our scholars," who never sing more heartily than when they all unite in the National Anthem of "God Save the Queen." The large room was adorned with paintings and coloured prints, as well as flags, belonging to the "Clare Market School." On one, newly added, were the words, "Welcome, Old Scholars,—God Save the Queen." 16 boys of the Night School, and 56 girls of the Day School, were ranged in order; 25 of the mothers were seated at the side. After tea, Mr. Peters, the secretary, addressed the scholars, explaining the cause of the meeting, and the good that he hoped would result from it. Many old scholars were gone out into all parts of the world, and were far beyond the distance which would allow them to come to this meeting. But all those who could had received the invitation willingly. He then said, "Perhaps you may be surprised at our having thus called you together, but there are good reasons for our so doing. The work of a school is a difficult one, and, as you know, requires much time and patience from the teachers. A school also costs much money; and in these kinds of schools, where the scholars do not pay anything, we are obliged to ask for help from friends, to enable us to keep it on in good order. If we were to count up all the money that has been spent during the twelve years this school has existed, you would be surprised at the large sum. But we all know that good things cost something; the better the object, the more will be the cost. Now, to obtain good boys and girls, such as we may hope will be one day good men and women, is worth much. We do not, therefore, grudge any of the large sums of money these schools have cost, and still cost us every year, if we only get what we wish for in return for our money, our time, and our labour. Now, you perceive one reason why we have bid you all come here to-day;—we wish to know if all the care, and patience, and money spent for you has produced us what we hoped and expected. The farmer does not sow corn in his fields only to see them look green in spring-time; he takes all the trouble of scattering the seed, because he hopes to have an abundant crop of corn in the time of harvest—corn that will be useful to man, and be worth much money. So likewise is it with teachers; they take great pains to sow good seed, that is, good instruction in the minds of children, not only to make them happy whilst they are young, but to enable them to be abundantly useful in good work when they grow older. If we find, as we hope and expect, that a great many old scholars are now serving their masters as true and faithful servants,—diligent, honest, obedient, patient in bearing reproof, striving to do their duty each in their place, serving God and man according to the laws of the Holy Bible; if we find this amongst our old scholars, we shall not regret one shilling of the money spent, nor one hour of the teachers' time. We do not wish the children to leave the school till they find a suitable place, where they will have the right kind of work for young boys and girls to do, and not be exposed to the temptation of doing such things as they ought not to do. And when our scholars do leave, let them still attend the Sunday classes, if possible. We do not forget them, nor do we wish them to forget their teachers. By this means you will keep friends with your teachers. A good friend is one of the most valuable things we can have; and no friend is likely to be a better one for you than your kind teacher in school, on week-day or Sunday. A good and wise teacher will not only be able to help and advise you about your plans for work in this life, but will lead you to know and love Him, who still says to all Christians of every age, "Ye are my friends, if *ye do what I command you*." Mr. Gent, and other friends of these Schools, also spoke to the "old scholars," giving good advice and encouragement, and receiving, as thanks, hearty cheers from the scholars. Afterwards,

Mr. Charles, from the Home and Colonial School, gave an excellent Lecture on the "Pilgrim's Progress," illustrated by dissolving views, in a magic lantern. This gave great satisfaction to all the party, and closed this first meeting of the "old scholars." The time for teaching in the school is often very short, the poor children are obliged to leave, for some kind of work, at an early age. It is, therefore, most necessary, for the completion of the work, to keep up an acquaintance afterwards, if possible; the influence is then very effectual for good. The first young girl who came to the Clare Market Ragged School, when it was opened for girls, January 15th, 1849, was present at the meeting, and received the gift of a Bible and Prayer-book, as an encouragement to perseverance in the good way. We recommend this kind of meeting very heartily to all superintendents of Ragged Schools.

CRIME IN THE METROPOLIS.

A VERY comprehensive series of tables on this subject have been prepared by the metropolitan police authorities. The return refers exclusively to the year 1858, and the number of persons taken into custody, the number summarily treated, the number committed for trial, acquitted, condemned; and all shown in various tables, together with the sex and age of the offenders, and many other particulars. The number of persons condemned bears a surprisingly small proportion to the number taken into custody. Taking the gross number of persons apprehended for all offences, from murder to vagrancy, more than half were discharged by the magistrates. In some cases the proportion discharged is much greater than this. We find that 2,862 persons were taken into custody in the course of the year, for being suspicious characters; and that 2,155 were discharged by the magistrates; and for the offence of "larceny from the person," popularly known as that of picking pockets, 1,980 persons were taken into custody, and 1,649 discharged, only about thirteen per cent. being ultimately convicted.

In more serious cases, too, a large proportion of persons appear to have been taken into custody on insufficient grounds. Out of eight apprehensions for murder, three were cancelled by the magistrates, and in the fourth case the bill was thrown out by the grand jury, while in a fifth the prisoner was acquitted. Of 82 persons who were taken into custody for cutting and wounding with intent to murder, the number ultimately convicted was exactly half, nearly half having been discharged by the magistrates. Most of the other offences against the person do not admit of a very elaborate treatment here. The number of apprehensions for common assaults was 7,090, half of the persons in question being at once discharged, nearly half were either summarily convicted or held to bail; and out of 52 committed for trial, 40 were condemned. For assaults on the police, 3,544 persons were taken into custody, only 234 being in this case discharged by the magistrates, 3,270 being summarily convicted or held to bail, and 40 being committed for trial, of whom 39 were convicted. The offences for which the apprehensions appear to have been most frequently just is burglary; 140 persons having been taken into custody, and no more than seven being discharged by the magistrates, and 112 being convicted on trial, and sentenced. In the whole year there have only been three cases of burglary attended with violence to persons. The number of authenticated cases of horse-stealing during the year was 19—in 18 of them the prisoners were found guilty. For the offence of stealing sheep only four persons were committed for trial, and of them only two were convicted. In the returns relating to simple larceny, the small proportion committed for trial of persons who were apprehended is again remarkable; 5,483 were taken into custody, and 4,684 were discharged by the magistrates, only 621 being

ultimately convicted on trial. For the offence of unlawfully possessing goods, 7,261 persons were taken into custody, and all were summarily convicted by the magistrates or held to bail—a fact that is rather surprising, considering the vagueness of the offence and general large proportion of cases in which the apprehensions have been made on insufficient grounds. The number of persons convicted during the year for uttering forged instruments is 20; for coining, 6; and for uttering counterfeit coin, 204.

OUR SCHOLARS' PRIZES FOR 1859.

This important branch of the Ragged School movement has again occupied the serious and thoughtful attention of the Committee of the Ragged School Union. They have taken into consideration the statements made, opinions expressed, and arguments brought forward, when the whole subject was discussed by the London delegates, a summary of which was given in our Number for February.

The Committee are fully satisfied that the plan of giving prizes is productive of incalculable good—that it tells most beneficially on the class of scholars whose interests they desire to promote—that it tends greatly to keep up constant communication between teachers and the taught; and they resolve to continue the plan, trusting that, while it draws very largely from their funds, funds would never be lacking to enable them to repeat it year by year, so long as there were found those who needed and had merited such tokens of approbation and rewards for steady and persevering good conduct.

On the importance of the plan of giving prizes annually there seems to be but one opinion. But it has been thought by some, the conditions of the past year were a little too stringent, and particularly hard in their application to girls. With a view, therefore, to encourage deserving girls, who by the former conditions were excluded, the condition limiting prizes to domestic servants, and such as slept at their employers, has been this year expunged. And with a view to encourage those who have already obtained a prize, a second money prize, for continued good service, is now proposed to be awarded according to the following conditions:—

1. That the candidates for these prizes must be over twelve and under seventeen years of age, and must have attended the Ragged School, giving the recommendation at least six months previous to entering the situation.
2. That those scholars who have remained in one place for twelve months, ending Christmas, 1859, and have not before received a money prize, will be entitled to a prize of Ten Shillings, as well as a Card, provided the Committee of the school recommending the scholar will pay two shillings and sixpence of that sum. That if any scholar has kept his place for twelve months, but has left it before Christmas for another, he shall be entitled to his prize, provided he be still in his second place at Christmas, 1859.
3. That those scholars who have received a money prize previously, and are again recommended for further service, to Christmas, 1859, will be entitled to a Prize Card and a sum of Five Shillings, provided the Committee of the school recommending the scholar will pay one shilling and sixpence of that sum.
4. Those girls who are engaged in business must have been regular in attendance at the Ragged School on Sundays for the period for which they are recommended. This rule does not apply to girls employed as domestic servants.
5. Apprentices, children employed by their parents, and scholars earning more than ten shillings per week, will be ineligible for the prizes.
6. Certificates must be furnished by the employers and school authorities, to show that the previous conditions have been complied with, and that good conduct has been continued to Christmas, 1859.

PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS.

On June 21st., the first annual general meeting of the Society for providing Public Playgrounds, was held at Willis's Rooms. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and, said there were two ways in which the objects of the Society could be carried out: either by the intervention of the Government, or by the generosity of private individuals. In his opinion, the Government ought not to interfere; it was certainly the duty of Government to open the parks wherein the general community might take exercise, but not to interfere in any case where amusement was to be provided. It was impossible for any one who walked about the streets of London not to see the necessity of providing healthful recreation for the hundreds and thousands of ragged, miserable children, who not only live in close ill-ventilated rooms, but went into dark, narrow alleys, where the air was no better. From children living in such a state of filth and misery, it was clear that they were unable to receive the education which was offered to them. It could not be doubted that the playgrounds which they contemplated establishing were necessary for their health, their morals, and their capability of receiving instruction. The difficulty which attended them was how they could accomplish their good end. In the suburbs it was easy enough to get sites suitable for places of recreation, but there the population was not so dense as to require so indispensable a boon as these playgrounds; but in the heart of London, where they were most wanted, the difficulty of getting the necessary land amounted almost to an impossibility; although they were not able to make them everywhere, they were endeavouring to make them where they could.

The Secretary read the Report, from which we extract the following:—

"At one of the earliest meetings of the Committee, the necessity for an Act of Parliament to facilitate grants of land near populous places for so benevolent a purpose was apparent to the board. Mr. Slaney, the member for Shrewsbury, undertook to introduce a bill into the House of Commons, which should effect the desired object. The Committee are happy to report that the Act has recently received the royal assent, and become a portion of the law of the land. The board have at length found a site in every way adapted for a model playground; it is situated in a thickly-peopled part of Camden Town. Arrangements for purchase are now in progress. The expense of the said purchase, and of the laying out of the grounds in a suitable manner, including the erection of a gymnasium, drinking-fountain, covered shed for wet weather, &c., will necessarily be large; but the Committee trust that the public, to whom they have addressed a special appeal for support, will enable them, before very long, to open the model playground.

"Early in 1858 they called the attention of Government to the advantage of retaining a portion of Smithfield unbuilt upon, and they received an assurance from the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the ground belonging to the Crown should be preserved open and free. In the summer of last year application was made to the first Commissioner of her Majesty's Works that a certain portion of each metropolitan park should be in some way enclosed, and made available on application for school treats, under the surveillance of a park-keeper.

"To this request a ready and kind acquiescence was accorded, and the Committee hope that this permission will be found of much advantage to the managers of such schools as cannot afford the expense of conveying the children a further distance from the close and crowded parts of London. The committee have also addressed communications to the mayors of large country towns, soliciting them to hold public meetings in aid of the cause, and to originate in those localities places of innocent diversion. A strong desire has been expressed by some interested in the welfare of poor children that in-door recreation should be provided for their minds after the hours for out-door play have ceased. Although this is not part of the original design of the society, the

committee have thought that it might be added with little expense and much benefit. They have been in communication with many lecturers on the subject, and they hope for a good result. The receipts had been £656 1s. 5d., and there was a balance in hand of £232 3s. 10d."

Mr. Montague Gore, Mr. Slaney, M.P., the Rev. Mr. Minton, Professor De Morgan, the Rev. Dr. Rous, Joseph Payne, Esq., Lord Ebury, and the Rev. H. J. Hatch, addressed the meeting.

THE TEACHERS' DAY AT NUTFIELD.

TUESDAY, the 21st of June, 1859, will long live in the recollections of a portion of the teachers belonging to the Ragged Schools in the east of London. On the morning of that memorable day, omnibuses and sundry vehicles, in increased numbers, were to be seen slowly bearing their passengers to the ever-teeming London-bridge Railway Terminus. When mustered, the group was numbered at 280, and at once taken by a special train to Redhill, near Reigate. These teachers were the invited guests of a well-known Christian philanthropist, and a long-tried and much-respected friend of the teacher and the taught. Amongst this happy group, we recognised some who earn their bread by hard toil—some city men of business, ministers of the gospel, and a few retired gentlemen. But all distinctions were merged, and each seemed to desire only to be known as a Ragged School teacher, on a visit to a Ragged Scholar's friend Each individual had received a card of invitation from Henry Edmund Gurney, Esq., to spend the day with him at his house at Nutfield; and a special train, at the expense of that gentleman, was provided for the company. Punctually at half-past ten, the usual signal was given, and the happy group moved rapidly along the line of railway which, after passing the precincts of the metropolis, intersects

> "The surface of enliven'd earth,
> Graceful with hills and dales and leafy woods."

Within five-and-forty minutes the train was brought to a stand, and its passengers guided along the beautiful road from Reigate to Nutfield, a distance of not more than two miles, and here a delightful scene presented itself. A company of Christian teachers, gathered from various sects of the Christian Church, greeting each other, proceeding in pedestrian groups, and most descanting on the beauties of the surrounding scenery. Soon were the company within the pale of Nutfield Priory, and as soon were they most heartily welcomed by Mr. Gurney and his lady, who came out to meet them. The generous host and his lady at once proceeded to guide the friends to the variety of pleasures and pastimes provided for them—such as the boat on the water; the flower and kitchen gardens; the meadow, with its newly-mown hay; quoits, cricket, and other games. These fully occupied them whilst a substantial cold collation was being spread under a spacious awning on the hay-field. The greater number took delight in playful gambols with the hay, in which old and young, grave and gay, took their share, and were pronounced by the delighted host to be capital haymakers. Yes, the poet Thompson might well have sung of them—

> "As they rake the green appearing ground,
> And russet haycock rises thick behind
> In order gay—while heard from dale to dale,
> Waking the breeze, resounds the blended voice
> Of happy labour, love, and social glee."

At two o'clock the repast was announced to be ready by the sounding of a gong, and the parties from all quarters sped their way with active feet to the tables, which were well furnished with viands. The repast finished, the chairman, Mr. Gurney, rose, and was long and loudly greeted. He then addressed them very pathetically, and

alluded chiefly to the importance and magnitude of their work, rejoicing with them in past successes, and expressing his heart's desire for even yet larger blessings to be bestowed upon their labours. Other pointed and well-timed short addresses were delivered by the ministers and friends present, and the company were again distributed about the estate, and amused themselves as before until six o'clock, when they took tea. The second meal concluded, the party left the grounds of Nutfield, and repaired to the station, full of happy reflections.

Correspondence.

HINTS ON FATHERS' MEETINGS FOR THOSE WHO NEED THEM.

To the Editor of the Ragged School Union Magazine.

Mr. Editor,—Your magazine has recently contained many interesting articles on Mothers' Meetings. It is gratifying to find that no less than 61 Ragged Schools have established such meetings, and that 1,700 poor women are statedly collected to learn how to make their homes happy, or, in other words, to be taught how to obey the injunction of the Holy Spirit, "Show piety at home." May they still go on and prosper, until every Ragged School has adopted similar agency, and until not one poor mother is without the Bible in the hand, and Christ in the heart!

It is, however, a subject for deep lamentation, that, during the discussion of this question, no reference has been made to the fathers of our scholars. It is true that the fathers do not possess the same influence for good or for evil, as the mothers. For, necessarily absent from home in the day-time, seeking for "the bread that perisheth," home-education must mainly devolve on the mother. Yet, if the father be a swearer and a drunkard, or, from his moroseness, the reverse of him of whom it is so sweetly sung,

> "His very foot has music in it,
> As he comes up the stairs,"

the children insensibly contract his bad habits, and the moral good acquired at school is *unlearnt* at home.

Yet how little has been done to meet the spiritual needs of our fathers, save by "Ragged Churches," *which, alas! they will not attend.* At present, whilst nearly a moiety of the Ragged Schools of London have established Mothers' Meetings, only four possess Fathers' Meetings; and these are but thinly attended. Now, can nothing be done to elevate socially and spiritually these poor men, or must they be surrendered as willing captives to Satan—their *beau ideal* of human happiness being either a rat-match, or sotting in a gin palace? Surely machinery which has answered so well in the case of our mothers, might be equally successful in attracting our fathers, if such modifications were made in the means employed as would tend to meet the special needs and peculiar habits of men.

In order to draw attention to this important subject, three suggestions may be presented, each proved to be practical by the success which has already attended the experiment.

First—Provident Funds for men might be attached to some of our larger schools. By your last Report, it appears that at Church Place Ragged School, Paddington Green, their Provident Club has been so successful, that "after paying all the demands for sickness and accidents the sum of £114 11s. 9d. was divided amongst the members." Last year the experiment was still more successful, for at Christmas, after

paying all expenses, £1 6s. 9½d. was found to be the share of each member of the club, which was distributed at a supper of good old English fare—most properly—as tending to develop that true feeling of independence without which there can be no *real* social elevation. They are permitted to manage their own affairs, make their own laws, and thus are self and wisely governed. Now, those who know what an uncouth, improvident, and quarrelsome class are the men employed in the Paddington dust-yards, are led to ask why should not the same experiment be tried,—and if tried, why should it not succeed,—in the other low districts of London?

SECOND—Let a Reading Room and Library be opened in some *central* part of London, several Ragged Schools combining to pay the necessary expenses. The following, or some modified plan to suit local exigencies, might be adopted:—Attached to the School in Blandford Mews, Marylebone, is a reading-room, opened every evening from seven till nine. In addition to books and periodicals—not forgetting that public-house luxury, a daily newspaper—lectures are occasionally given, wherein, instead of secularising religious subjects, secular topics are treated in a religious spirit. Though not, perhaps, as successful in attracting the fathers as might be desired, yet some have regularly attended the reading-room, and a still larger number have been attracted by the lectures. At all events, the effort is a worthy one, and suitable to every part of this great Babylon of ours.

Such reading-rooms would be rendered still more attractive if classes were formed for the elementary instruction of those whose secular training had been neglected. The records of the Registrar-General prove that there are thousands of such men in London, many of whom we *know* grieve over defects which they have no means of correcting. But by imparting such instruction, apart from their children, we should prove that we were anxious to improve their condition in the world; and thus, by the help of God, they might be *silently* won to the higher and the holier. In this, as in all evangelistic labour, true wisdom says, "cast up, cast up the highway, gather out the stones."

THIRD—Fathers' Tea-meetings should be occasionally given. We have attended many Mothers' Tea-meetings, and some—at Church Place and George Street, Lisson Grove, for example—where the fathers have also been invited; and it was questionable who most enjoyed the addresses—the fathers or the mothers. But, were men occasionally invited *alone*, they would probably feel more at ease, and the addresses might be more pointedly addressed to their special worldly trials and *home*-sins. By this means they would be taught a truth, which, alas! they have now rare opportunity of learning, that, if we yearn for a loving and, therefore, however poor, a happy family, we must, like the cottagers of Bethany, first invite Christ as a guest. The benefit at least would result, instead of poor females alone hearing the tidings of grace, many men would be brought within ear-shot of the gospel trumpet. So far as the destitute and depraved mother is concerned, the work is being well done. In the language of Nehemiah, we may say that "the wall was joined together unto the half thereof, for the people had a mind to work." What, then, is needful is, that our spiritual wall should not remain only half built—in other words, that both fathers and mothers should be embraced by the same means of social and spiritual elevation. The message, then, to those who grieve over idleness and profligacy is this: Be no longer content to lament over evils which you have not tried to eradicate, but at once "arise and build!" When we visit the haunts of the abandoned classes, and observe their readiness to be taught when any one is ready to teach in a brotherly and not patronising spirit, we are constrained to exclaim,—The rich, ripe, spiritual harvest waves before the breeze, but where are the reapers?

I am, &c.,

Q. IN THE CORNER.

The Children's Gallery.

BREAD-GIVERS AND BIBLE-GIVERS.

Some of our young friends know that the word "Lady" was coined by our Saxon ancestors, and that it means "Bread-giver!" Happy epithet! and well earned by many a stately dame of olden time, as by church porch, or hall door, she took the crisp brown loaves out of the huge hamper by her side, and distributed them to famishing age or youth.

Nor has this title been less richly won in these our days by many a female of illustrious pedigree,—aye, and by many a humble Ragged School teacher. Very pleasant was it to find among the Christmas donations to our Refuges, this item, "300 loaves for the homeless poor." In a few Ragged Schools slices of bread are given to the most destitute scholars during the winter months; and happy should we be if the donations of friends enabled the teachers more frequently thus to earn the title of Bread-givers.

In the Gray's Yard Ragged School, too, a meal of rice and milk is given to the scholars twice a week during the winter—the only meal that many infants will obtain that day. Long may the teachers of Ragged Schools thus copy the pattern set by their Divine Master, who said, "if I send them away fasting to their own houses, they will faint by the way." Hence it was that He so bountifully fed as well as taught the classes akin to those in our Ragged Schools.

But, as noble a title as that of "Bread-giver" has been won by not a few Ragged School teachers—namely, that of Bible-givers. For they well know that "man does not live by bread alone;" and thus, that it is possible for the body to be well nourished, whilst the soul is being starved. Hence they have done their utmost to realise the pious wish of George the Third, that every poor child in his dominions might *possess*, and be able to read, the Bible.

It is now some years since the Ragged School Union earned the honourable title of Bible-givers, by supplying the London Ragged Schools with neatly bound and gilt-edged Bibles for sixpence per copy—they paying the Bible Society tenpence for each volume. This has given many poor Ragged Schools an opportunity to sow the good seed of the Kingdom, which otherwise they could not have afforded. So much is this boon appreciated, that not less than 1,500 Bibles are sold by the Ragged School Union every year; and thus, during the past seven years, they have been the means of circulating above 10,000 copies of the Holy Book.

One fruit is that many of our 24,000 scholars have been led to prize this best of books—and doubtless, in some cases, doubly to prize it, because it was their own property. Often have we inscribed appropriate texts—not unfrequently suggested by themselves—as mementos of their Ragged School. Many are now reading them by the flickering beam of the rushlight in their else dismal homes; and to them Nehemiah's words may be fitly applied, "day by day, from the first day to the last day, they read in the book of the law of God." Others, as emigrants, have carried their Bibles across the broad ocean; and whilst tending their flocks in Australian wilds, or felling the giant trees of Canada, they have through the operations of the Holy Spirit become not only the means of recalling home-scenes, but of reviving spiritual impressions.

In connexion with Bible-giving, a pleasing fact was communicated at the Annual Meeting of a Ragged School. It came to the knowledge of some girls attending Horselydown Sunday School that ten scholars attending New Street Ragged School were to be rewarded with Bibles for good behaviour. In that kindly spirit which makes the poor so desirous to help their poorer brethren, they requested leave to collect the money, and present them. This request being granted, the Bibles were presented to ten boys and

girls at a Public Meeting. We could scarcely tell who were most delighted on this interesting occasion—the happy recipients as they trooped across the platform, or the little rosy-cheeked girls who had thus won the honourable appellation of Bible-givers in early life. Many things they will, doubtless, live to regret; but never will the day come when they will be sorry that they put it in the power of some of the youthful heathen of Bermondsey to become personally acquainted with the wondrous teachings, and the still more wonderful doings, of Him who "spake as never man spake," and who died as never mere man could have died.

But have any of our young friends thus won the title of Bible-givers? If they have, they have long before this understood the full meaning of the beautiful proverb of our Redeemer,—"It is more blessed to give than to receive." But, if not, then this text, which needs no comment, is for you—"Go thou, and do likewise!" For then, when the labours of life are over, and the clods of the valley cover all that is mortal, this epitaph may be fitly inscribed over your tomb—"Here lies a Bible-giver!"

Poetry.

CHANGE.

It is a fearful and a bitter thing,
A life that hath no childhood: to forego
All the green gladness of the bursting spring,
Its beauty and its blessedness, and know
Only the pall of sorrow's sable wing,
Only its shadow shifting to and fro;
Only the lingering of the nights of gloom,
And the dull anguish of the days of doom.

I knew one such—a calm-eyed, beautiful child,
With his free pulses leaping like the light;
And yet his very infancy was piled
Top-full of infamy and blast and blight:
The shameless shames that make the brain reel wild,
The reeking wrong that crouches in the night,
And all the deep, dark leprosy of death,
And all the curse of being and of breath.

A pale child-beggar, weeping in the street—
A blind, black drunkard, putrid to the soul;
The withering tempest and the burning heat;
The midnight shudderings, in some charnel-hole,
Where, from the hell that hiss'd beneath your feet,
Your life would shrink back like a scorched scroll,
And rather brave perdition's self than dare
Outface the thick fierce horrors welfering there.

And this, with him, was life: and the wrong grew,
And the deep mire lay deeper in his path,
And on his heart there fell a darker hue,
And o'er his head there burst a wilder wrath;
And a film settled in his eye of blue,
And his lip quiver'd, as a strong man's hath
In a great agony—and more and more,
The foul shame fester'd to his being's core.

* * * *

A pale child sitting, singing holy hymns,
A low voice breathing broken words of prayer;
The calm of a blue eye that never dims—
A happy laughter breaking on the air:
The blessed bounding of the supple limbs,
The full life glancing in the golden hair;
And the meek turnings to the heaven above,
Where, over all, with folded wings, sat Love.

* * * *

And his are wider blessings: leagues away
His heart is quiet as the holy calm

That holds the green earth on a Sabbath day.
There—soothed and strengthened by the delicate balm
Breathing above his purple pulses' play,
His life moves like the singing of a psalm;
And so they love him—and the light that lies
In the deep fountains of his mystic eyes.

And thus for him was wrought a change, to tell
Upon the farthest ages:—it hath given
One shivering soul back from the clasp of hell,
And laid it in the sheltering arms of heaven.
It may give more:—the rest is mystical—
I cannot trace the workings of the leaven:
And yet I know a little air will shake
The slumbering waters of a mighty lake.

R. R.

LOOK ROUND.

Look round your neighbourhood with pitying eye,
And see the child that wildly runs the streets
In playful folly, even at your door.
Has it a parent? Yes! perhaps it has;
But not to lead it into wisdom's ways;
Not to direct its wandering eye to heaven,
Or guide its footsteps in the path of truth!
Take thou that part;—instruction thou canst give;
And lo! benevolence contrives a way
In which it may be done without much toil,
And without much expense. Heardest thou that sound
Which sweetly issued from that humble roof?
'Twas children singing the Redeemer's praise!
Again—they lift their little hands to heaven,
And bend their knees in prayer—then learn to read
And hear the words of everlasting life:
Thus do they sanctify the Sabbath-day.
Who brought them there?—what condescending hand
So kindly leads them in the paths of life?
Oh! 'twas a pious band, whose glowing hearts
Felt for the miseries of our rising race;
Now they forego the rest the Sabbath yields,
Forego the pious intercourse of friends,
And hasten to the school—there to instruct
The children of the poor to know their God.
Join with them, oh! my friend, in heart and hand;
Or, if the task of teaching be too hard
For health declining, or for strength decay'd,
Yet with thy prayers, thy friendship, and thy purse,
Assist, and comfort, and encourage those
Who deem no toil too great to save a soul.

Notices of Meetings.

BROOK STREET, HAMPSTEAD ROAD.

On May 6th the eighteenth annual meeting of this school was held. In the absence of the Lord Mayor, Joseph Payne, Esq., presided. The report stated that the Brook Street schools were intended for the education of poor children. Their sphere of usefulness had been considerably enlarged—the three schools had an average attendance of 130. The industrial school had been attended with much success in rescuing desperate and depraved children from a course of vice, a total of 342 having been reclaimed by its instrumentality; 37 had been admitted during the past year, 13 of whom had been provided with situations, and two assisted to emigrate. In the Sunday Schools the attendance was so great (upwards of 296) that they were about to enlarge the schools. A Mothers' Meeting had been formed, to enable the mothers of the children to help themselves. 140 members had been enrolled, and the average attendance was 30. A penny-bank had been opened; since January, 300 depositors had joined. Two lending-libraries had been established and free lectures. The debt of £200 on the schools had been paid off during the past year; but the expenditure had exceeded the receipts, a sum of £117 10s. being still due to the treasurer. The meeting was addressed by Revs J. Tomkins, W. Landells, W. Fox, and T. Jones; and by Messrs. W. Ferry, E. J. Hytche, and McCree.

DR. DE JONGH'S

(*Knight of the Order of Leopold of Belgium*)

LIGHT-BROWN

COD LIVER OIL,

Prescribed by the most eminent medical men throughout the world as the safest, speediest, and most effectual remedy for

CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST AND THROAT, GENERAL DEBILITY, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, AND ALL THE DISORDERS OF CHILDREN ARISING FROM DEFECTIVE NUTRITION.

Dr. de Jongh, an eminent Dutch Physician, has, as is well known, devoted himself for upwards of sixteen years to a series of scientific researches into the nature and properties of Cod Liver Oil. His works recording these investigations have been translated into most of the European languages; by universal admission, they are regarded by the Faculty as the standard authority upon the subject; and in addition to the spontaneous approval and highly flattering testimonials from some of the most distinguished medical men and scientific chemists of Europe—amongst whom may be enumerated the illustrious Liebig, of the University of Giessin, the renowned Swedish Chemist, Berzelius, and the celebrated Physician, Baron Fouquier, of the University of Paris—Dr. de Jongh has been rewarded by his Majesty Leopold I., the King of the Belgians, with the dignity of a Knight of the Order of Leopold, and the large Gold Medal of Merit, and by his Majesty William II., the King of the Netherlands, with a Silver Medal specially struck for the purpose.

Extensive use upon the Continent for many years has gained for Dr. de Jongh's Oil the highest repute, and professional and general appreciation. Since its introduction into this country it has secured the entire confidence of the most eminent members of the British medical profession, and has obtained, notwithstanding the active and in many instances unscrupulous opposition of interested dealers, an unprecedented amount of public patronage.

Dr. de Jongh's elaborate chemical investigations and therapeutical experiments with the several kinds of Cod Liver Oil have demonstrated the superior efficacy of this pure Light Brown Oil, which effects a cure, relieves symptoms, and alleviates suffering in a much shorter time than the Pale Oil: iodine, phosphate of lime, volatile fatty acids, and the elements of the bile—imparting the colour to the Oil, and deemed amongst its most active and essential principles—being invariably present in much larger quantities than in the Pale Oils manufactured in England and Newfoundland, which, by their mode of preparation, are in a great measure deprived of these active properties.

In taste and odour Dr. de Jongh's Oil is not disagreeable or repulsive; it is easily taken by the most delicate invalid or child; creates no nausea or after-taste; is borne with facility, and not rejected by the stomach; and does not irritate or disturb the organs, but improves the functions of digestion and assimilation.

Its medicinal properties are found, in practice, to be infinitely greater than those of the ordinary Cod Liver Oil, and it produces beneficial results and effects a cure in a much shorter period. In innumerable cases Dr. De Jongh's Oil has afforded immediate mitigation of symptoms, arrested disease, and restored health, where other kinds of Cod Liver Oil had been long and copiously administered with little or no benefit.

In use it is not so expensive as any Oil sold as genuine by respectable Chemists, whilst its active properties, more rapid effects, the smaller doses required, and its uniform purity and certainty of operation, render it far preferable and more really economical than that which is offered at the lowest price. *This latter consideration is particularly worthy the attention of all who, from motives of apparent cheapness, may be induced inadvertently to recommend or purchase an inferior or spurious preparation.*

PRINCIPAL MALADIES IN WHICH DR. DE JONGH'S COD LIVER OIL HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY PRESCRIBED.

CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST AND THROAT.

The extraordinary virtues of this medicine in tubercular consumption, a disease long allowed to be one of the *opprobria medicinæ*, may now be considered as fully established. Administered in time, and steadily persevered in, it has not only the power of subduing all disposition to phthisis, but of arresting the development of tubercles; or, when the disease has advanced to the developed form, it has accomplished, in numerous instances, a perfect cure. In the last stage, it is, at all events, the best palliative means of allaying the urgent symptoms, and even when a complete cure is not produced, it may for years prolong life and render it more supportable. No remedy so rapidly restores the exhausted strength, improves the nutritive functions, stops or diminishes emaciation, checks the perspiration, quiets the cough and expectoration, or produces a more marked and favourable influence on the local malady. Hospital, dispensary, and private practice, all furnish innumerable cases in which the administration of this remedy has been attended with the happiest results To quote the eloquent words of the Rev. C. D. BADHAM, M.D., the gifted author of "Ancient and Modern Fish Table:"—

"With what still greater wonder and complacency must every enlightened physician, now-a-days, contemplate that wholly unexpected and invaluable ally which suffering lungs have recently secured from the iatric liver of the cod. *Alere flammam*—to feed common lamps—was, till lately, all it professed to do; but now its vaunt is, *alere vitam*—to replenish the lamp of life when burning low, and threatening to go out. Thousands of cases hitherto most unpromising, have, under its auspices, suddenly changed their aspect, and looked bright: here, a fair girl hastening to decay, had scarcely taken a few doses, when the ominous cough was appeased, she recovered her roses, smiled once more on a reassured family of friends, and went on her way rejoicing; there, a case of graver import, which had whispered death to the inquiring ear, made a stand, rallied, and consumption was, for the time, arrested in mid-course; and again, in patients still further reduced by the blighting malady, the administration of the bland Oil was frequently observed to respite, soften, and assuage sufferings beyond its power to remove. Scepticism, by slow degrees, made way to conviction; and he who, a few years ago, would justly have passed for a quack who should have pretended to cure consumption, is now countenanced everywhere by brother practitioners, who have all the same story to tell, till the world at large has become convinced of the fact; and there is now not a village apothecary through the length and breadth of our isle who has not himself witnessed some of the endless beneficent wonders which this penetrating balm, under the Divine blessing, has already worked, and is daily working, among the children of men."

In non-tubercular pulmonary disease, so prevalent, especially among the industrial population, who are exposed to abrupt vicissitudes of heat and cold, and to the mechanical irritation produced in the respiratory organs by the impregnation of the air of mines and manufactories with earthy or metallic particles, or with dust emanating from flax, cotton, or wool, the soothing and reparative action of DR. DE JONGH'S Oil subdues the chronic inflammation of the lungs, and effectually arrests the progress of the malady.

The same beneficial results attend the administration of this Oil in many chronic affections of the throat as in pulmonary diseases. M. CHAMPOUILLON, the celebrated French Physician of the Hospital of Val de Grâce, asserts, from considerable experience, that this Oil is most effectual in curing chronic bronchitis. No remedy so speedily allays, and permanently cures, the distressing irritation which provokes frequent and prolonged coughing. The actual benefit derived is thus conclusively stated by ARTHUR CRIDLAND, Esq., an eminent surgeon in extensive practice at Brighton:—

"The effect of DR. DE JONGH'S Cod Liver Oil on myself in the latter stage of whooping cough, last winter, was remarkable. I suffered from excessive irritation of the larynx; consequently, I was greatly reduced in strength and appearance, and quite unable to attend to my professional duties. It occurred to me that the Oil which I was frequently prescribing would benefit my own case, and, after taking it a few days, its good effect commenced, and at the end of six weeks I regained my usual health and strength, and had entirely lost the laryngial irritation, which was of a most harassing and fearfully distressing character.

"It is therefore with much pleasure I beg to add my testimony to the excellent results attendant on DR. DE JONGH'S Oil."

GENERAL DEBILITY AND EMACIATION.

To maintain health, or to avert the access or development of disorders to which there is a constitutional predisposition, as well as to impart strength in old age, convalescence, or natural feebleness, DR. DE JONGH'S Oil has been used with the greatest benefit. In cases of prostration and emaciation, produced by long sickness, by exposure to the influence of tropical climates or vicissitudes of temperature, to a cold, humid, or vitiated atmosphere, in fenny and marshy countries, unhealthy manufactories and mines, or where excessive labour, fatigue, bad nourishment, and other hardships, have reduced the vital forces, and where life appeared to be even at its lowest ebb, the reparative and restorative powers of this Oil have been remarkably manifested. According to TAUFFLIEB, BREFELD, CAREY, and other eminent physicians, its action appears to be different from that of the ordinary tonics properly so called, and it has, in consequence, been resorted to with the most beneficial effect after the whole range of these had been in vain exhausted.

By its administration the failing physical powers of advancing age are renewed, the natural appetite is revived, and the functions of digestion and assimilation improved and regulated, and when its use is steadily persevered in, from its peculiarly nutritious and tonic properties, it swiftly restores flesh to the most emaciated frame, and imparts health and strength to the most feeble and deteriorated constitution. These peculiar characteristics of DR. DE JONGH'S Oil are thus described by HENRY HANKS, Esq., a distinguished London practitioner:—

"The superior efficacy of DR. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal.

"Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perceptible improvement, have, after a brief trial of DR. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accompanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and, consequently, to advise its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil."

DISORDERS OF INFANCY, CHILDHOOD, AND ADOLESCENCE.

In those severe disorders, infantile wasting, rickets, and mesenteric disease or swelling of the belly, Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil, whether the disease be at its commencement or at its height, will supersede every other means of cure, and will accomplish whatever can be expected or hoped for from any medicine. The learned German Physician Brefeld, gives the following description of its operation:—

"The healing virtue of this Oil in these forms of disease is as incredible as it is unlimited in its effects. Even in the very extremity of life, where the patient appears to be sinking, and death inevitable, it affords relief as a matter of certainty. I know nothing to controvert this, except an intervening attack of acute fever and the termination of life, the death-struggle itself. It moderates slow fever and diarrhœa as well as the other symptoms of rickets, which one after the other are gradually dispersed. It improves digestion and the consequent nourishment of the body; the tumid belly softens and diminishes in size as the wasted extremities begin to recover their rotundity. The old features again become natural and childish; the skin moist and clear; the powers of life are restored; the eyes are again full of life and brightness; the slow fever disappears; the childish gaiety re-establishes itself; with a return of healthy sound sleep, and removal of that anxious nightly starting and shrieking which render the night so wretched to the infant. With the increasing strength the desire and ability to stand and to walk return; and the unnatural state of the bones, both in form and strength, by degrees is corrected.

"As an anthelmintic the Oil is a most excellent adjuvant, by which the worms are dislodged, both mildly and effectually."

In that precarious and distressing state where the child may be sickly and feeble without being actually ill, the surprising efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is thus described by the distinguished Physician, Dr. Edward Carey:—

"It is in the diseases incidental to childhood that mainly depend on the mal-assimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that this Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body when none other can be borne; it furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner; and, administered as it is in Holland, to the delicate and puny child, who, though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, by an appearance of health and strength which was before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are at present acquainted."

The remedial virtues of Dr. de Jongh's Oil in cases of hereditary weakness or deficient nutrition, the prolific causes of convulsive affections and many fatal disorders of children, are thus recorded in the *Medical Times and Gazette*:—

"In badly nourished infants Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is invaluable. The rapidity with which two or three teaspoonfuls per diem will fatten a young child is truly astonishing. The weight gained is three times the weight of the Oil swallowed, or more; and, as children like the taste of the Oil, and when it is given them often cry for more, it appears as though there were some prospect of deliverance for the appalling multitude of children who figure in the weekly bills of mortality issued from the office of the Registrar-General."

In checking a tendency to consumption and general debility at that age when a too rapid growth in the young renders the constitution fragile, and weakens the powers of assimilation and nutrition, this Oil has been found singularly efficacious. Dr. Pruys van der Hoeven, the eminent Physician of Leyden, states:—

"I have given it to boys whose form of chest, delicate skin, and disposition to catarrh, showed a phthisical habit, and it has, in conjunction with dietetic and gymnastic rules, not only improved the delicate appearance, but has removed the obstinate cough. I have administered it to young people who grow tall exceedingly quickly, and have in all cases found it a most powerful restorative."

DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

In these distressing and unsightly complaints, which oftentimes tenaciously resist for years the whole Pharmacopœia of alteratives and tonics, combined with every available ointment and lotion, the curative effects of Dr. de Jongh's Oil, after a few weeks' administration, in the most inveterate cases, have been so remarkable, that this safe and simple remedy is now regarded as a specific in the most prevalent chronic cutaneous affections.

It will be sufficient to quote the following opinion of Thomas Hunt, Esq., Surgeon to the Western Dispensary for Diseases of the Skin, and the eminent writer on cutaneous disorders, who, in his popular work, "Guide to the Treatment of Diseases of the Skin," observes:—

"If there is any one medicine which is at all to be compared with arsenic in its power over skin diseases, that medicine is the Cod Liver Oil sold in bottles as Dr. de Jongh's Oil. As there is no medicine in the market more grossly adulterated than what is called Cod Liver Oil, I insist upon my patients procuring this article, which I know to be genuine, not only by analysis, but by the invariably satisfactory operation of the medicine in very small doses, in the cases to which it is appropriate. These are chiefly those accompanied with wasting of the flesh, from whatever cause, mal-assimilation, defective nutrition, variable appetite, deficient food, strumous disease, &c. The cutaneous diseases most benefited by the Oil may be cited in the following order—strumous sores, sycosis, lupus, acne, prurigo, lichen, eczema."

SCROFULA AND SCROFULOUS DISORDERS.

All who have prescribed this Oil have unanimously acknowledged its virtues in every form of scrofula, and bestowed upon it the highest praise, which has secured it the first place amongst anti-scrofulous remedies. It eradicates the first trace of the disease, and prevents its development and formation.

Brefeld says, "There is no remedy which at all approaches its therapeutic properties in scrofulous disease; it is an undoubted powerful medicine, operating in a peculiar specific manner, and affording relief where, to all appearance, and according to former experience, the disorder was beyond the reach of medicine."

Kerr states, "The first time the Cod Liver Oil is prescribed for a scrofulous patient, its favourable effects are soon apparent, and which can only be attributed to its use, frequently acting in a truly wonderful manner. It effects a change in the general appearance; the cachectic colour is lost, the flabby flesh becomes firm, the chain of swollen glands diminish and separate, and ulcers put on a healthy character and heal."

SELECT MEDICAL OPINIONS.

The following are selected from some of the leading British medical opinions in commendation of DR. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil:—

The late JONATHAN PEREIRA, M.D., F.R.S., F.L.S.,

Professor at the University of London, &c. &c.

"My dear Sir,—I was very glad to find from you, when I had the pleasure of seeing you in London, that you were interested commercially in Cod Liver Oil. It was fitting that the Author of the best analysis and investigations into the properties of this Oil should himself be the Purveyor of this important medicine.

"I feel, however, some diffidence in venturing to fulfil your request, by giving you my opinion of the quality of the Oil of which you gave me a sample; because I know that no one can be better, and few so well, acquainted with the physical and chemical properties of this medicine as yourself, whom I regard as the highest authority on the subject.

"I can, however, have no hesitation about the propriety of responding to your application. The Oil which you gave me was of the very finest quality, whether considered with reference to its colour, flavour, or chemical properties; and I am satisfied that, for medicinal purposes, no finer Oil can be procured.

"With my best wishes for your success, believe me, my dear Sir, to be very faithfully yours,

"(Signed) JONATHAN PEREIRA,

"To Dr. de Jongh." "Finsbury Square, London, April 16, 1851.

A. B. GRANVILLE, Esq., M.D., F.R.S.,

Author of "THE SPAS OF GERMANY," "THE SPAS OF ENGLAND," "ON SUDDEN DEATH," *&c. &c.*

"Dr. Granville has used DR. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil extensively in his practice, and has found it not only efficacious, but uniform in its qualities. He believes it to be preferable in many respects to Oils sold without the guarantee of such an authority as De Jongh. Dr. Granville has found that this particular kind produces the desired effect in a shorter time than others, and that it does not cause the nausea and indigestion too often consequent on the administration of the pale Newfoundland Oils. The Oil being, moreover, much more palatable, Dr. Granville's patients have themselves expressed a preference for DR. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil."

G. H. BARLOW, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P.,

Physician to Guy's Hospital, Author of "A MANUAL OF THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE," *&c. &c.*

"I have frequently recommended persons consulting me to make use of DR. DE JONGH'S Cod Liver Oil. I have been well satisfied with its effects, and believe it to be a pure Oil, well fitted for those cases in which the use of that substance is indicated."

CHARLES COWAN, Esq., M.D., L.R.C.S.E.,

Senior Physician to the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Consulting Physician to the Reading Dispensary, &c. &c.

"Dr. Cowan is glad to find that the Profession has some reasonable guarantee for a genuine article. The material now sold varies in almost every establishment where it is purchased, and a tendency to prefer a colourless and tasteless Oil, if not counteracted, will ultimately jeopardize the reputation of an unquestionably valuable addition to the Materia Medica. Dr. Cowan wishes DR. DE JONGH every success in his meritorious undertaking."

C. RADCLYFFE HALL, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P.E.,

Physician to the Hospital for Consumption, Torquay, Author of "TORQUAY IN ITS MEDICAL ASPECT," *&c. &c.*

"I have no hesitation in saying that I generally prefer your Cod Liver Oil, for the following reasons:—I have found it to agree better with the digestive organs, especially in those patients who consider themselves to be bilious; it seldom causes nausea or eructation; it is more palatable to most patients than the other kinds of Cod Liver Oil; it is stronger, and consequently a smaller dose is sufficient."

RICHARD MOORE LAWRANCE, Esq., M.D.,

Physician to H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, &c.

"I have frequently tested your Cod Liver Oil, and so impressed am I with its superiority, that I invariably prescribe it in preference to any other, feeling assured that I am recommending a genuine article, and not a manufactured compound, in which the efficacy of this invaluable medicine is destroyed."

☞ DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL *is sold only in bottles; each bottle being sealed with a stamped metallic capsule, and bearing beneath the pink outside wrapper a label with* DR. DE JONGH'S *stamp and signature, and to these capsules and marks purchasers are earnestly requested to pay particular attention.*

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IMPORTANT CAUTION.—*The public are solicitously cautioned against intrusive attempts frequently made by apparently respectable but not over-scrupulous Chemists, not satisfied with the legitimate profits of trade, to induce them to purchase other kinds of Cod Liver Oil, under the fallacious pretence that they are the same as* DR. DE JONGH'S, *or equally efficacious. Where this discreditable course is pursued, purchasers are earnestly requested to apply directly to* DR. DE JONGH'S *Agents in London, who will enable them to obtain the Oil without any additional charge.*

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